

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A compressed gas storage cylinder lifting device comprising handle means, a first frame member, and a second frame member ~~and at least two~~ pivotably connected to the first frame member, the first and second frame members adapted to pivot between a first, open, configuration and a second, closed, configuration, wherein at least a portion of inner walls of the ~~at least two~~ first and second frame members form a gripping surface, which gripping surface is adapted to lie substantially parallel with side walls of the compressed gas storage cylinder ~~an article to be lifted~~ when in the second, closed, configuration; wherein the handle means slope downward with respect to the compressed gas storage cylinder ~~a gripped article~~ when in the second, closed configuration, wherein the first and second frame members are shaped such that when in the second, closed, configuration ~~position~~ they define a substantially circular shaped aperture, wherein when the lifting device is positioned upright and no upward pressure is applied to the frame members, the first and second frame members pivot under their own weight into the first, open, configuration, but are prevented from further pivotal movement by a first abutment member located on the first frame member abutting a second abutment member located on the second frame member.
2. (Currently Amended) A compressed gas storage cylinder lifting device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first and second ~~lifting device comprises two~~ frame members ~~which~~ are pivotably connected at two points.

3. (Currently Amended) A compressed gas storage cylinder lifting device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the two pivot points are substantially coaxial.
4. (Currently Amended) A compressed gas storage cylinder lifting device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first and second frame members are shaped such that they define a substantially oval shaped aperture when in the first, open, configuration.
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Currently Amended) A compressed gas storage cylinder lifting device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the handle means comprises two handles each of which is attached to one of the ~~two~~ first and second frame members and situated substantially opposite each other about the device.
7. (Currently Amended) A compressed gas storage cylinder lifting device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the gripping surface defines a portion of an oval when in the first, open, configuration.
8. (Currently Amended) A compressed gas storage cylinder lifting device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the gripping surface defines a portion of a circle when in a second, closed configuration.

9. (Currently Amended) A compressed gas storage cylinder lifting device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the gripping surface comprises gripping means.
10. (Currently Amended) A compressed gas storage cylinder lifting device as claimed in claim 9, wherein the gripping means comprises a friction increasing material.
11. (Currently Amended) A compressed gas storage cylinder lifting device as claimed in claim 9, wherein the gripping means comprises rubber or the like.
12. (Currently Amended) A compressed gas storage cylinder lifting device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the gripping surface comprises retaining means adapted to retain the gripping means thereon.
13. (Currently Amended) A compressed gas storage cylinder lifting device as claimed in claim 12, wherein the retaining means comprise a lip which preferably extends along a lower edge of the gripping surface.
14. (Currently Amended) A compressed gas storage cylinder lifting device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first and second frame members each comprise a first portion, proximal to the pivots, which first portions preferably, when in the first, open, configuration, extend away from the pivots at substantially 180° to each other.

15. (Currently Amended) A compressed gas storage cylinder lifting device as claimed in claim 14, wherein when in the first, open, configuration the first portions of the first and second frame members are substantially coplanar.
16. (Currently Amended) A compressed gas storage cylinder lifting device as claimed in claim 14, wherein a second portion of each frame member extends away from an end of the first portion of each frame member distal to the pivots.
17. (Currently Amended) A compressed gas storage cylinder lifting device as claimed in claim 16, wherein when in the second, closed, configuration, the second portions of the first and second frame members are substantially coplanar.
18. (Currently Amended) A compressed gas storage cylinder lifting device as claimed in claim 16, wherein the second portion incorporates the gripping surface.
19. (Currently Amended) A compressed gas storage cylinder lifting device as claimed in claim 16, wherein the second portion extends away from the first portion at a downwardly sloping angle thereto.

20. (Currently Amended) A compressed gas storage cylinder lifting device as claimed in claim 16, wherein the handle means extend away from the second portion of the first and second frame members at a downwardly sloping angle thereto.

21. (Currently Amended) A compressed gas storage cylinder lifting device comprising handle means and at least a first frame member and a second frame member ~~two frame members~~ being connected by at least one pivot and adapted to pivot between a first, open, configuration and a second, closed, configuration, the first and second frame members each comprising a first portion, proximal to the at least one pivot, and a second portion extending away from an end of the first portion distal to the at least one pivot, which first portions, when in the first, open, configuration are substantially coplanar and which second portions, when in the second, closed, configuration are substantially coplanar; wherein the handle means slope downward with respect to the compressed gas storage cylinder ~~a gripped article~~ when in the second, closed configuration, wherein the first and second frame members are shaped such that when in the second, closed, configuration ~~position~~ they define a substantially circular shaped aperture, wherein when the lifting device is positioned upright and no upward pressure is applied to the frame members, the first and second frame members pivot under their own weight into the first, open, configuration, but are prevented from further pivotal movement by a first member situated on the first frame member abutting a second member on the second frame member.

22. (Cancelled)

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23. (Cancelled)